

Group Insurance Scheme for Panchayat workers

178. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI : Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government are considering to introduce group insurance scheme for Panchayat workers in order to cover serious ailments, accidents and deaths, etc.;
- (b) if so, by when it is expected to be implemented; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKARAIYAR):
(a) to (c) Panchayat workers fall in the jurisdiction of State Governments and Panchayati Raj Institutions. No such proposal is under the consideration of the Government of India.

Co-operation between Panchayats and NYKS for promotion of sports

179. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA:

SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY:

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering to synergise the activities of the Nehru Yuval Kendra Sangathan with panchayats across the country for promoting sports and games;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government are also considering to launch a centrally sponsored scheme through the net-work of Panchayati Raj institutions with the help of local units of the N.Y.K.S.; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKARAIYAR):
(a) and (b) Yes Sir. The Government propose to synergise the activities of the Nehru Yuval Kendra Sangathan with Panchayats across the country for promoting sports and games by sharing the responsibility between the Panchayati Raj Institutions and Youth clubs of the Nehru Yuval Kendra Sangathan through activity mapping so that promotion of sports and games is done in a coordinated manner at the different tiers of the Panchayati Raj system.

(c) and (d) The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, in association with the Ministry of Panchayati Raj, propose to launch Panchayat Yuva Khel Abhiyan through the networking of Panchayati Raj Institutions with the local units of the Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan. The objective is to promote access for children and young people to organize sports and games; foster excellence in national and international sports events; encourage traditional sports and games; promote national integration; promote gender equality through sports; fight the growing menace of drug abuse; and promote community participation, self-esteem and pride at the grass roots.

The proposal is still at the initial stage and the scheme is being prepared in consultation with the State Governments. As at present envisaged, it is proposed to provide minimum funding to each Gram Panchayat for the preparation of play-grounds, particularly where there is no play ground. Additionally, though convergence with the other Government schemes such as sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana, the Backward Regions Grant Fund, the National Rural Employment Guarantee Programmes, grants received from 12th Finance Commission and State Finance Commission etc. as well as State schemes, funds will be available to the village Panchayat and the local Nehru Yuva Kendra in concurrence with the Gram Sabha, to build up sports facilities. It is further proposed to provide for recurring expenditure on sports equipments and other accessories.

MoUs with MNCs for development of rural India

180 MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:
 SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government propose to sign MoUs with multi-national companies for development of rural India through setting up business hubs in the rural areas;
- (b) if so, the details thereof *inter-alia* indicating those that are proposed to be set up in Orissa;
- (c) whether the farming community is also proposed to be involved in the process; and